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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~TOP SECRET~~

JAN 23 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR

The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Director, Arms Control and
Disarmament Agency
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT: Safeguard Steering Committee

It is essential that, in defending the President's ABM program this year, the Government have a carefully developed rationale, which is thoroughly understood and uniformly employed by all agencies and officials.

*NSC REVIEW
COMPLETED, PAGE
1 ONLY*

To that end, the President has directed the establishment of a Safeguard Steering Committee under NSC chairmanship to:

-- oversee the preparation of an agreed rationale for the decision, including answers to likely questions and criticisms;

-- review major statements on the ABM program to insure that they are consistent with the agreed rationale.

So that those who will bear the major immediate responsibility for explaining the program to Congress and the public are fully involved in the preparation of the rationale, each agency (with the exception of CIA) will have two representatives, one who is chiefly concerned with policy and one with public or legislative relations.

Please let me know the names of your representatives as soon as possible.

(Signed) HENRY A. KISSINGER

Henry A. Kissinger

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NSS review completed.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

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JAN 22 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR

Bryce Harlow
Herb Klein
Ron Ziegler
H. R. Haldeman

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

SUBJECT: White House Safeguard Group

(Signed) HK

It is essential that, this year, in defending the President's ABM program, the Government have a carefully developed and thoroughly understood rationale, which is consistently employed by all agencies and officials.

To that end, there will be established a Safeguard Steering Committee with representatives from both policy and public or legislative affairs offices in State, Defense, CIA, ACDA, and JCS. In addition, the President desires that there be a group within the White House staff to oversee the process of development and presentation of the rationale, which will work concurrently with the interagency group.

Please let me know as soon as possible whom you recommend as your representative on this White House Safeguard group.

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

JAN 20 1970

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MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Walter B. Slocombe *WS*

SUBJECT: Committees to Develop Safeguard Rationale

Attached are two memos setting up committees to develop and explain the rationale for the President's FY 71 ABM program:

-- The memo at Tab A establishes a White House staff group, with representation from H. R. Haldeman, Ron Ziegler, Bryce Harlow, and Herb Klein, to begin work before the inter-departmental group.

-- The memo at Tab B sets up an interdepartmental committee with representation from State, Defense, CIA, ACDA, and JCS. Each agency (except CIA) is asked to have two representatives, one from the policy and one from the legislative or public affairs side.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memos at Tabs A and B.

Attachments

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